# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# FINANCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1959
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2015
Opium Cultivation
Baheria Shri Subhash Chandra

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

a) Whether the Government has reviewed the criteria, guidelines, rules and regulations framed and fixed for opium cultivation in country;

b) If so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

c) the time elapsed since the last review;

d) whether Government propose to notify new areas for opium cultivation;

and

e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reason therefor?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

(a),(b) &(c) Section 9 of the NDPS act, 1985 empower the Central Government to permit and regulate by rules, the cultivation (such cultivation being only on account of Central Government) of opium poppy. Chapter III (Rules 5 to 30 ) of the NDPS Rules, 1985 deal with the licensing of opium cultivation. Rule 8, ibid, authorizes the District Opium Officers to issue license's for cultivation of opium poppy subject to the 'general conditions relating to grant of licenses notified by the Central Government'. It has been the practice to notify these 'general conditions' every year through a Gazette Notification in the month of September for the crop year commencing form 1st of October and ending 30th September of the succeeding year. The general conditions for grant of opium poppy cultivation license for the crop year 2014-15 issued vide notifications dated 22-09-2014 and 28-11-2014.

(d) &(e) No, Madam, Licit cultivation of opium poppy is carried out in India in selected tracts notified by the Central Government annually in the States of Madhya Pradesh Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.